लोड पर डाल दिया गया ताकि फरवरी, 1998 से कोयले का संसाधन आरंभ किया जा सके और 10 दिसम्बर, 1998 तक लगभग 1.10 लाख टन कच्चे कोयले को संसाधित कर लिया गया। क्षतिग्रस्त कन्वेयर्स के पुर्ननिर्माण के पश्चात वाशरी फिर से कोयले का संसाधन आरंभ कर देगी।

Advanced Technology to Produce Soft Coke

159. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Fuel Research Institute (CFRI) has developed a commercially viable and environment friendly technology to produce soft coke;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any market survey has been carried out to assess marketability of the product and if so, with what results; and

(d) by when the product is to be marketted to meet the demand of the domestic coke in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On the basis of technology developed by CFRI the low temperature carbonisation of lower grades of coal having some caking index, are carried out. This is done in a sole heated carbonisation oven wherein devolatilisation and carbonisation take place producing soft coke. The fuel has been tested by CFRI to confirm the statutory level laid down for emission of air by Central Pollution Control Board. This technology is found to be economical and commercially viable and many entepreneurs have set up such plants and some others have applied to CIL for obtaining further coal linkage clearance.

(c) It has been reported by both Coal India Limited and Central Fuel Research Institute that no market survey has been made by them.

(d) It has been reported by CFRI that about 17 plants have already been commissioned, some of which have started marketing the product.

कोयले का उत्पादन

160. **श्री डी० पी० यादव:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:—

(क) वर्ष 1998 की समाप्ति पर देश में कुल कितने कोयले का उत्पादन किया गया तथा इसमें से कुल कितना कोयला निर्यात किया गया;

(ख) क्या यह उत्पादन गत वर्ष के दौरान की तुलना में अधिक है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो वह मात्रा कितनी है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिलीप राय): (क) (अप्रैल-दिसम्बर, 1998 की अवधि के दौरान देश में कुल कोयला उत्पादन 206.31 मि०ट० (अनंतिम) रहा है। इस अवधि के दौरान निर्यातित कोयले की कुल मात्रा 0.02 मि०ट० है।

(ख) और (ग) (अप्रैल-दिसम्बर, 1998 के दौरान कोयले का उत्पादन पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि में हुए उत्पादन से कुछ ही कम हुआ है। पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि के दौरान कुल उत्पादन 206.355 मि०ट० था। उत्पादन में कमी विद्युत तथा सीमेंट जैसे बड़े उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा कोयले की कम उठान किए जाने के कारण हुई।

Coal mining in India

161. DR. G.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the productivity in both opencast and underground coal mines in the country;

(b) how this compares with the productivity of coal producing countries of the world;

(c) the reasons for poor productivity in coal mines in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve the productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The productivity in terms of output per manshift (OMS) during the period April-December, 1998 in Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. is given below:

(In tonnes) (Provisional)

Company	Under-ground	Open-cast	Overall
Coal India Limited	0.57	5.51	1.95
Singareni Colliery Co. Ltd.	0.71	5.71	1.26

(b) The productivity of our mines do not compare favourably with those obtaining in other countries mainly on account of very low productivity from our underground mines. Again the method of computation of productivity as followed in Indian mines in general is quite different from the same followed internationally. In India, even persons engaged in services like Hospital, Water supply, Sanitation, Workshops, Watch & Ward etc. are included in calculating manshifts employed. In foreign countries only persons engaged directly in production of coal are considered. Many services jobs are done through contractors and are therefore excluded.

(c) Some of the reasons for low productivity in Indian mines are:

(i) Small patches of open-cast which are not amenable to high degree of mechanisation.

(ii) Absence of multi-skilled workforce.

(iii) Presence of multiple trade unions in each working unit.

(iv) In the UG mines, coal deposits are not amenable to high degree of mechanisation due to difficult geomining conditions and poor quality of coal.

(d) Following are some of the steps taken/actively considered for improving productivity:—

(i) The trade unions are being persuaded to introduce the system of multi skilled/multi task workforce in certain selected mines.

(ii) Various measures to reduce idle time during change of shifts.

(iii) Introduction of condition monitoring and scheduled maintenance of equipment.

(iv) Introduction of productivity linked wages; and

(v) Introduction of new/improved technology in both U.G and O.C mines some with foreign participation.

Illegal activities in the Andaman's Seas

162. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Defence had directed in July, 1998 the three service chiefs not to take action on intelligence reports on gun running and other illegal activities in the Andaman's Seas, without prior permission of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) In February 1998, an operation was undertaken by the Navy, the Army and the Coast Guard in the Andamans on the basis of specific intelligence reports. This operation resulted in capture of a large quantity of arms and ammunition. 73 persons were arrested and 6 were killed in encounter. However, many controversial issues were prominently reported in the media about this operation.